



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

6560-50-P

[FRL-9657-2]

Clean Water Act: Final Agency Action on 32 Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) in Louisiana.

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: This notice announces final agency action on 32 TMDLs prepared by EPA Region 6 for waters listed in Louisiana's, Lake Pontchartrain Basin, under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act (CWA). Documents from the administrative record file for the 32 TMDLs, including TMDL calculations and responses to comments, may be viewed at www.epa.gov/region6/water/npdes/tmdl/index.htm . The administrative record file may be examined by calling or writing Ms. Diane Smith at the address below. Please contact Ms. Smith to schedule an inspection.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Diane Smith, Environmental Protection Specialist, Water Quality Protection Division, U.S. EPA Region 6, 1445 Ross Avenue, Dallas, TX 75202-2733, (214) 665-2145.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In 1996, two Louisiana environmental groups, the Sierra Club and Louisiana Environmental Action Network (plaintiffs), filed a lawsuit in Federal Court against the EPA, styled Sierra Club, et al. v. Clifford et al., No. 96-0527, (E.D. La.). Among other claims, plaintiffs alleged that EPA failed to establish Louisiana TMDLs in a timely manner. EPA established 32 of these TMDLs pursuant to a consent decree entered in this lawsuit.

EPA Takes Final Agency Action on 32 TMDLs

By this notice EPA is taking final agency action on the following 32 TMDLs on waters located within the Louisiana Lake Pontchartrain Basin:

<u>Subsegment</u>	<u>Waterbody Name</u>	<u>Pollutant</u>
040102	Comite River – Wilson-Clinton Hwy to entrance of White Bayou (East Baton Rouge Parish) (Scenic)	Fecal Coliform
040103	Comite River – Entrance of White Bayou to Amite River	Fecal Coliform
040201	Bayou Manchac – Headwaters to Amite River	Fecal Coliform
040302	Amite River – LA Hwy 37 to Amite River Diversion Canal	Fecal Coliform
040304	Grays Creek – Headwaters to Amite River	Fecal Coliform
040305	Colyell Creek System (includes Colyell Bay)	Fecal Coliform
040503	Natalbany River – Headwaters to Tickfaw River	Fecal Coliform
040504	Yellow Water River – Origin to Ponchatoula Creek	Fecal Coliform
040505	Ponchatoula Creek and Ponchatoula	Fecal Coliform

	River	
040603	Selsers Creek – Origin to South Slough	Fecal Coliform
040703	Big Creek and Tributaries – Headwaters to confluence with Tangipahoa River	Fecal Coliform
040909	W-14 Main Diversion Canal – from its origin in the north end of the City of Slidell to its junction with Salt Bayou	Fecal Coliform
040910	Salt Bayou – Headwaters to Lake Pontchartrain (Estuarine)	Fecal Coliform
041302	Lake Pontchartrain Drainage Canals	Fecal Coliform
041401	New Orleans East Leveed Waterbodies (Estuarine)	Fecal Coliform
040501	Tickfaw River – From MS State Line to LA Hwy 42 (Scenic)	TDS
040504	Yellow Water River – Origin to Ponchatoula Creek	TDS
040301	Amite River – MS State Line to LA Hwy 37 (Scenic)	TSS
040401	Blind River – From Amite River Diversion Canal to mouth at Lake Maurepas (Scenic)	TSS
040903	Bayou Cane – Headwaters to U. S. Hwy 190 (Scenic)	TSS

040303	Amite River – Amite River Diversion Canal to Lake Maurepas	Mercury
040401	Blind River – From Amite River Diversion Canal to mouth at Lake Maurepas (Scenic)	Mercury
040403	Blind River – Source to confluence with Amite River Diversion Canal (Scenic)	Mercury
040501	Tickfaw River – From MS State Line to LA Hwy 42 (Scenic)	Mercury
040701	Tangipahoa River – MS State Line to Interstate Hwy 1-12 (Scenic)	Mercury
040801	Tchefuncte River and Tributaries - Headwaters to confluence with Bogue Falaya River (Scenic)	Mercury
040905	Bayou Liberty – Headwaters to LA Hwy 433	Mercury
040906	Bayou Liberty – LA Hwy 433 to confluence With Bayou Bonfouca (Estuarine)	Mercury
040505	Ponchatoula Creek and Ponchatoula River	Dissolved Oxygen
041201	Bayou Labranche	Dissolved Oxygen
041805	Lake Borgne Canal (Violet Canal)	Dissolved Oxygen
041401	New Orleans East Leveed Waterbodies (Estuarine)	Dissolved Oxygen

EPA requested the public provide to EPA any significant water quality related data or information that might impact the 32 TMDLs in the Federal Register Notices: volume 76, number 219, pages 70442 and 70443 (November 14, 2011), volume 76, number 234, page 76161 (December 6, 2011), and volume 76, number 247, page 80366 (December 23, 2011). The comments which were received, EPA's response to comments, as well as the TMDLs may be found at www.epa.gov/region6/water/npdes/tmdl/index.htm .

Dated: March 28, 2012

Signed: William K. Honker,

P.E., Acting Director

Water Quality Protection Division, EPA Region 6

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